

Board of Directors Executive Committee Meeting September 26, 2024 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Region 10 145 S Cascade Conference Room

- 1) CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS
- 2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS
- 3) APPROVAL Minutes August 2024
- 4) Action ITEMS:
 - a. Discussion/Approval of Expense Capitalization and Authority to Sign (Executive Director Report)
 - b. Approve Enterprise Zone Contribution Projects (Community Development Report)
- 5) REPORTS
 - a. Executive Director Report- Michelle Haynes
 - Financial Report—not included
 - Community Development
 - Regional Grants Navigator
 - b. Small Business Resource Center- Nancy Murphy
 - SBDC/Business Cultivator
 - Business Loan Fund
 - c. Area Agency on Aging- Brian Bowler
 - RSVP new grant application
 - d. Regional Broadband-Corey Bryndal
 - e. Gunnison Valley Transportation Region Committee- Vince Rogalski

Action: Accept Director Reports

- 6) NEXT MEETINGS
 - a. Executive Committee: October 24, 2024 Noon-2:30 p.m.
 - b. Board of Directors Meeting: December 6 Noon-2:30
 - c. BLF Committee: December 6, 2024 10-11 a.m.
 - d. AAA Regional Advisory Committee: TBD
 - e. Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region10: October 17, 2024 1:30 -3:30 p.m.
- 7) ADJOURNMENT



Region 10 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes August 22, 2024 In Person at Region 10 Office with a Zoom Video Conference

- 1. CALL TO ORDER and INTRODUCTIONS-Meeting was called to order at 12:34 pm.
 - a. **Staff:** Michelle Haynes (R10 Director), Nancy Murphy (Small Business Development Director), Corey Bryndal (Broadband Director), Eva Veitch (AAA Director), Brian Bowler (incoming AAA Director), Courtney Tribble
 - b. In-Person Board Members: John Clark (Town of Ridgway, Chair), Dave Frank (City of Montrose, Vice Chair), Mike Lane (Delta County) Roger Rash (Montrose County), Michelle Nauer (Ouray County), Linda Riba (Montrose County), Greg Hart (Town of Cedaredge), Vince Rogalski (GVTPR Chair)
 - c. Remote Board Members: Jonathan Houck (Gunnison County), Michael Bacani (Mt Crested Butte), Kris Holstrom (San Miguel County), Greg Levine (Hinsdale County), Dave Roberts (Town of Lake City), Paige Smith (Town of Paonia)

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Agenda M/S Dave Frank/Michelle Nauer, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES for July 2024, Executive Committee Meeting

- a. Add Elyse Ackerman-Casselberry's entity (City of Delta) to attendees
- b. Small Business Resource Center: desk audit, "files were in good order"
- c. Roundtable: Hinsdale County is 150 years old

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve minutes: M/S: Michelle Nauer/Roger Rash, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

4. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Assessment Discussion/Approval
 - i. The staff reviewed different models, including a 'per capita rate' assessment shift, but we decided to propose an across-the-board percentage increase, keeping the current method of proportion of population as the base. Proposing an increase in Area Agency on Aging assessments of \$24,000 annually.
 - 1. Delta County, Montrose County, and the City of Montrose will see significant increases as it is based on population.
 - 2. We use the Area Agency on Aging assessments, a match for grant programs that we apply for within the AAA programs.
 - 3. We have cut AAA services by approximately \$250,000 and still have a remaining \$125,000 (primarily in meals) of expenses higher than program revenues.
 - 4. We are considering applying for grants, such as Daniels Fund, to help with the meals program.
 - 5. Discussion regarding Orchard City: the City has typically not paid assessments. Since the County membership assessments are based on total population, we continue to provide services in the community, including home-delivered meals and in-home services to the seniors.
 - a. The board thinks that it would be worth Michelle and Delta County Commissioners to meet with the Orchard City Town Council to try to get them involved and paying their dues.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve: M/S: Dave Frank/Michelle Nauer, as accepted. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **REPORTS**:

- a. ED/Financial Reports | Michelle Haynes
 - i. Financial Report
 - 1. There are a few adjustments to make for the June Financial Report, including the doubtful balance for the Business Loan Fund (BLF) and other reconciliations.

- 2. On the balance sheet there is not a lot to point out except that the loan fund balance is growing.
- 3. We learned a lot with our grants this year. The RSVP Program funds were short about \$70,000. For the Regional Grants Navigator Program, we were anticipating a grant from the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) of about \$40,000 that was not processed, so the program is \$30,000 over expended.
- 4. Salaries are lower than budgeted; consequently, contracted services are higher than budgeted.
- 5. RLF Interest and Fees: the Late Fees revenues are higher than budgeted because there are more late loan payments.
 - a. This could be reflective of the business environment; this could also be that businesses are just not paying.
 - b. We are working on how we manage late payment processes including late notices, default letters from the attorney, etc.

ii. Executive Director Report

- 1. We are not expecting a 3rd year of the RGN Program but a recent call with the governor's office indicated it may be possible.
- 2. Getting ready for our fiscal audit, the onsite is not yet scheduled.

b. Small Business Resource Center | Nancy Murphy

- i. SBDC/Business Cultivator
 - 1. USDA State Director visited the Business Cultivator in Olathe.
 - 2. Callie, Adriana, and Rachel are working with the City of Montrose to create a packet for Mobile Food Businesses.
 - Community Business Preservation Program is continuing with 5 Gunnison businesses receiving grants.
 - 4. Demystifying Entrepreneurship Program will be held in Montrose in the Region 10 office on September 20/21.

ii. Cultivator

1. Adriana attended the CMU Career Festival, National Night Out in Olathe, and a Business Resource Fair in Delta.

iii. Business Loan Fund

- 1. Working on Loan Processes to improve efficiency, including late/payment notices and ACH payment.
- 2. Two loans closed in July, one loan was charged off and one request for a modification and 14 borrowers in the pipeline.

c. Community Living Services | Eva Veitch

- i. Training two new SHIP Counselors.
- ii. Ombudsman Program had its annual review, which went well.
- iii. Funding impacts: we have 14 people on the waitlist for in-home services: homemaker, caregiver respite, etc. We will re-evaluate that on October 1st. We denied services to 22 people for homemaker services in July due to funding constraints. We have 39 people on the waitlist for meals and 5 of those we would consider high risk when being evaluated through our process. Life Alerts are capped at the current use levels.
- iv. Update from the Benjamin Rose review of the legislative budget: \$16.3 million cut to the Older Americans Act to the nutrition programs bringing the funding levels below the allocations of 2023.
- v. The reallocations of the Older Americans Act funding will be going to legislature again this coming year.
- vi. RSVP New Grant Application: We are applying for a grant(s) for the counties that we don't currently receive funding for: Ouray and San Miguel counties. There is a 30% grant match requirement; we will be applying for a waiver to reduce that to 10%.

d. Broadband | Corey Bryndal

- i. Spoke at Mountain Connect Conference with 1100 people and 25 State Broadband directors.
- ii. Eric Hittle and Vall Technologies have been contracted with to help support operations.
- iii. Expansion project, the cabling and splicing plans are moving forward. The optical equipment has been received. We have routing equipment that will be moved from Montrose to Boulder at a UCAR Lab for programming. Once the configurations are complete the equipment will be moved into the field along I-70 and US 50.

- iv. Working on addressing legacy system issues to better manage infrastructure with the Region 10 area. There are some inconsistencies in the prior implementation.
- v. Meeting with Crested Butte and Mt Crested Butte to finalize the project for a new CNL and fiber in the community.
- vi. Working with Visionary to adjust equipment and install in the CNL in Lake City and finishing the IRU in the community.
- vii. Nucla to Telluride: working with contractor for equipment installation.
- viii. We are going to issue an RFP for ongoing Operations and Maintenance.

e. GVTPR - Gunnison Valley Transportation Planning Region Committee | Vince Rogalski

- i. Next Thursday, August 29th is the GVTPR meeting, and it is the first meeting with CDOT on the Long-Range Plan and next 10-year plan.
 - 1. Michael Snow will be here to do a presentation on MMOF (Multi Modal Options Funds) program.
 - 2. Updates on Construction in both CDOT Region 3 and 5 will be provided.
- ii. Little Blue Canyon construction is completed. The bridge is open for a couple hours in the morning (6:30-9:30am) and in the evening (4:30-7:30pm). Starting Labor Day, it will be open more.
- iii. HB 23-1101 update, Intermountain TPR does want to be divided into two TPRs but Southeast TPR and South Central TPR do not want to combine, due to funding implications.
- iv. Transportation Commission currently has 9 commissioners rather than 11 and that is because the Governor has not appointed those positions.

ACTION ITEM: Motion to approve Reports; M/S: Roger Rash/Michelle Nauer. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **ROUNDTABLE**

- a. DELTA COUNTY
 - i. Greg Hart (Town of Cedaredge): have a new Town Administrator, Dave Torgler, and a new Public Works Director, Carl Holm. Approved a site plan phase for a residential development on the back 9 of the golf course. Updating Comprehensive Master Plan with a consultant. The Board is considering a bridge replacement with a grant from DOLA for close to \$1 million and we are determining whether that bridge really needs to be replaced because it requires a 25% match. We are also waiting to hear back from FEMA about a grant from them for \$600,000.
 - ii. **Mike Lane (Delta County):** We got a grant for \$10,000 to gather 1,586 tires for tire shredding that now do not end up in the land fill or the adobe hills. BLM assisted with the program.
- b. GUNNISON COUNTY
 - i. Jonathan Houck (Gunnison County): We have been putting athletic directors in touch with CDOT to manage the school sports travel schedules. CDOT will start work on the Lake Fork bridge because the repair team is already deployed to the area.
- c. HINSDALE COUNTY
 - i. **Greg Levine (Hinsdale County):** We are working on a chip seal project but are having some trouble with the weather impact on the project.
- d. MONTROSE COUNTY
 - i. Roger Rash (Montrose County): Continue to work on the Safe Routes for All (SS4A) for the permanent light at the airport. We have closed the center parking lot at the airport for complete re-construction. We are talking about adding 2 ground ramps. The Tribute to Aviation was cancelled this year due to commitments for the aircraft for other events. We are currently interviewing for a new county manager; we had 14 candidates, and we have narrowed those to the top 4. We will announce the top 2-3 finalists on September 4th and then the newly elected officials will have a chance to interview on the 10th. We hope to have someone chosen by September 18th. Courthouse renovation is moving forward with the windows being removed and new ones installed next week. We put out an RFP for a new Health Services building to understand what the cost of that would be. Jail remodel is moving forward. Signed the contract to purchase the Naturita School to turn it into a Sherrif's Office substation and the Clerk's Office. Bucktail Fire is contained, and the Sherrif's Office is working on the clean-up from the fire.

e. OURAY COUNTY

- i. **Michelle Nauer (Ouray County)**: Ouray County declared a disaster emergency with the recent rains and floodings. Corbet Creek closed CR 17 which is one of the very few ways in and out of Ouray. Working on the final draft of our Master Plan.
- ii. **John Clark (Town of Ridgway)**: The renovation of the Firehouse Project should be complete in the next month. Beaver Creek, where we get town water, was affected by a mudslide taking out the diversion filling it with mud and rocks. The Town Engineer has looked at it, but it looks like a \$2 million repair over multiple years.

f. SAN MIGUEL COUNTY

i. **Kris Holstrom (San Miguel County)**: We are experiencing a shift with the weather; Ophir, Black Bear and Imogean passes have been closed.

7. **NEXT Meeting:**

a. We need to reschedule the November/December Meeting. The committee selected December 5 as the meeting date.

8. ADJOURNMENT

a. The meeting was adjourned at 2:01p.m

Executive Director Update August 2024

Action Items: Review/Approve proposed increased assessments for 2025. Proposed assessments are updated to reflect an increase for the Area Agency on Aging to assist with the decline of funding; other assessments are similar to prior year.

Discussion/Approval Items:

- Increase Expense Capitalization to \$10,000
- Discuss Increasing Checks requiring two signatures to increase to \$10,000
- Renewal of Authority for Executive Director to sign DOLA and other grant contracts/amendments

Informational Items:

- Preparing Year End (6/30/2024) financials for the fiscal audit. The on-sight audit has not yet been scheduled with the CPA firm.
- Received OEDIT grant of \$40,000 for Regional Grant Navigator (thru 4/30/2025)
- o Transitioning IT services to new contractor.
- Reviewing bylaws and potential MMOF (Multi-Modal Funds) process for the Gunnison Valley Transportation Region (GVTPR)—next meeting October 17.
- Reviewing requirements for Just Transitions (National Office) for Broadband assistance grant for match/support for Director and consultants to provide technical assistance for federal grants.
- Requested a Scope of Work amendment for DOLA initial broadband expansion grant (Boo3)
 to move a portion of the fiber from CDOT to a private provider.
- Working with Colorado Workforce on potential subscription (sub-lease) of the Gunnison office; have returned agreement template with comments.

Staffing:

 No current employee open positions. Senior Services are contracting for volunteers and contractors for Medicare Counseling, Senior Companion and Retired Volunteer Service Programs.



Community Development Board Report

For September 26, 2024 prepared by Courtney Tribble

Enterprise Zone (EZ):

- ACTION ITEMS: EZ Contribution Projects
 - o HopeWest: Operations Healthcare/ Job Training
 - Colorado Flights Alliance: Operations Transportation project that supports the economy of a rural area.
- Enterprise Zone Redesignation Process Tool has been launched. If you are wanting to look at what the 2022 Census Data is showing for your community or county please visit the website for Enterprise Zone Redesignation to see how to use it for your region.
- Region 10 will apply next for the region's areas to be designated as an Enterprise Zone. If the data is not showing an region as a qualified EZ but your country or community is facing challenges that the data is not showing, we will want to work on the application for those areas. Delta & Montrose Counties are qualified based on the data as whole counties. Ouray, Gunnison & Hinsdale County have significant portions of the county that are graduated out based on the data. I am working with the State Enterprise Zone Program Manager to set up a meeting for these counties and the communities within them to go over the options and process.

ONE Delta County:

Continue to participate as an ex-officio member of the One Delta County Board. Met with their Board President to go over what Community and Economic Development are and what it means for Delta County. **Economic Development Council of Colorado (EDCC):**

Continued attending the Events & Planning committee. The conference is hosted in Beaver Creek this year. Presentations include: Educational Attainment as an Economic Development Issue, Workforce, Place-based Economic Development and Site Selection.

National Association of Development Organizations (NADO): Finished meetings for the Collaborative Learning Group to see what other regions across the nation are implementing with Economic Development. Will be submitting a Final Case Study to the group on Region 10's Regional Grants Navigator Program that has been implemented over the past 2 years.

High Alpine Loop Roadmaps:

Received an update on the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Study completed by Mountain Studies Institute out of Silverton. The goals and objectives of the study were to gather data, evaluate recreation usage, map infrastructure (Rest Areas, Parking Areas, Trail Heads, Signage, Restrooms, etc.), and environmental impacts around the High Alpine Loop to provide a quantitative assessment of the resources and better inform a management for the infrastructure updates and needs for the region. Please review the Region 9.5 Progress Update, to see what data has been collected and if you have any feedback as to known infrastructure that is not marked or where you know infrastructure needs to be implemented. If you would like to meet to go over what information has been found more in depth please reach out to Courtney@region10.net and we can set a meeting up. A final report of the findings will be available at the end of October.

West End Solutions Group:

Eva & Brian were able to attend this month to make connections with the Older Adult Community.

International Economic Development Council (IEDC)

Attended the IEDC Annual Conference in Denver on September 15-18, 2024. Was able to meet with some of our Regional & State Partners to see what resources are available to our communities.



Memorandum

To: Region 10 Board of Directors

From: Patty Gabriel, Regional Grant Navigator

Date: September 18, 2024

Re: September 2024 Board Report

Here is the update on the RGN program for September.

- 1. The RGN team continues to search for applicable federal IIJA and IRA grants and put out funding memos when announcements occur. These memos focus on the categories of water, wastewater, disaster resiliency, energy efficiency and resiliency and transportation. We have also received requests from several entities to assist them with locating funding for specific projects. We are currently working with twenty-two local governments and special districts in the region.
- 2. Communities in the region continue to struggle with the capacity to apply for and manage federal grants. Staff are currently assisting the City of Delta with their FHWA grant, the Town of Crawford with their BOR WaterSMART grant and the Town of Naturita with their EPA grant. We will continue to reach out to communities and offer assistance with compliance as more grant awards are announced. These grants were also entered into the State's Salesforce database.
- 3. Grants & Grub is scheduled for September 30th from12:00 (noon) 1:00 pm. Dallas Blaney, Energy & Climate Federal Funds Officer in the Colorado Governor's Office, will present on the Elective Pay Program & Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC). Dallas is very knowledge in both areas and will no doubt have great information to share.
- 4. DOLA still has ample funding available in the LOMA Program. LOMA is to be used to help local governments with their match requirement when applying for IIJA Grants. DOLA also continues to provide IIJA and IRA Grant Writing Assistance Programs, especially for low-capacity communities. Please help spread the word to those communities who may benefit from these programs.

Please reach out to me at <u>pgabriel@region10.net</u> or Shay at <u>shay@unbanruralcontinuum.com</u> for any questions related to the RGN program.

SBRC Board Report

September 26, 2024

Noteworthy

Adam Frisch visited the Business Cultivator on Mon, Sept 16.

What's Happening

Cultivator Notes from Adriana

- Seven (7) active kitchen clients.
- Mindful Roots has joined the commissary kitchen. Mindful Roots sells frozen vegan dishes in the Glenwood Springs/Aspen area.
- Part of the steering committee for the SBDC network Cafecito Zoom meetings that will begin in September.
- Began attending Hispanic Outreach Committee meetings to brainstorm on possible ways to attract Hispanic farmers and offer bilingual training. The team is composed of Valley Food Partnership, CU Extension, and the Workforce Center.

SBDC Notes from Callie

- Attended ASBDC conference in Atlanta Sept 9-13: attended sessions on Hispanic outreach, working with client's financial statements, taxes, funding, etc.
- Finalized CBPP grant agreement and MOUs with business owners; business owners are starting to utilize their funds; SBDC TA training plans are due in October.
- Launching new startup track webinars in September and October that were developed with NW SBDC.
- Programming committee working on startup classes and on-demand programs.
- Working with City of Gunnison and ICEIab to set up REDI grant application and award process: info nights happening Oct. 7&8; applications due probably in December.
- Working with Nikki Maloney and office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management on Hwy 50 bridge closure business impact and response.

BLF Notes from Sarah

- Dario participated in a funding panel held at the Delta Innovation Center last week.
- The loan pipeline continues to be strong with two loans approved and expected to close by the end of the month (September). The approved businesses are in Montrose and Delta counties and are a startup restaurant in Montrose and a refinance of an existing excavation business R10 loan.
- Loan inquiries remain strong. We expect to be receiving applications from five (5) businesses in the coming weeks.
- The updated Loan Fund policy has been submitted and is being reviewed by the BLF committee. Several SOPs have been reviewed and updated, as well.
- No loans closed in August; no loans paid off in August.
- We received two (2) requests for a loan modification in August.
- We are currently supporting 111 active loans throughout the region.

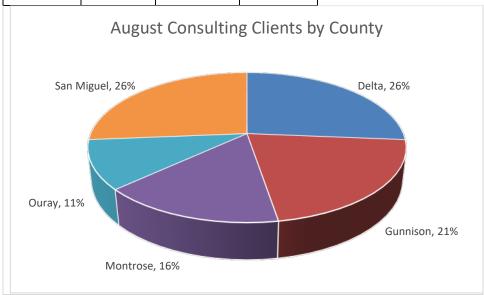
General Notes

- Callie, Dario, Adriana, and Rachel attended West Slope Startup Week in Durango last month.
- Dario, Adriana, Courtney, and Nancy presented on behalf of Region 10 business resources at BIG, a Montrose business meetup group.
- Demystifying Entrepreneurship was canceled for a second time due to lack of registrations.
- Adriana, Michelle, and Nancy have been meeting with the City of Delta and Mindspring representatives regarding the Delta Power and Light building project.

- Dario and Nancy attended Montrose BIG (business meetup) lunch yesterday.
- Dario and Nancy stopped by the Workforce open house yesterday.
- Nancy is serving as a mentor to the newest SBDC director (Grand Junction).

The Numbers

August SBDC Consulting Clients									
Clients	Clients Sessions Hours Rating								
19	21	22	9.6/10						



What's Coming Up



970.765.3139 | www.region10.net/businesses-resources

Business Loan Fund Portfolio

As of August 31, 2024



Total Active Loans by County

County	# Loans	Lo	an Amt	Cu	rrent Loan Balance	# Jobs Created	# Jobs Retained
Delta	13	\$	390,202.00	\$	226,025.39	13	28
Gunnison	17	\$	745,200.00	\$	458,993.06	50	80.5
Hinsdale	1	\$	20,363.00	\$	2,808.22	0	1
Montrose	69	\$	3,789,067.04	\$	2,748,281.35	115	361.5
Ouray	7	\$	271,086.00	\$	194,100.92	11	18
San Miguel	5	\$	132,000.00	\$	49,781.52	5	27
Grand Total	112	\$	5,347,918.04	\$	3,679,990.46	194	516

Total Active Loans by Industry

Industry	# Loans	Lo	an Amt	Cu	rrent Loan Balance	# Jobs Created	# Jobs Retained
Food and Beverage	26	\$	1,274,343.00	\$	833,303.25	82	127
Hospitality	3	\$	435,000.00	\$	411,920.78	22	6
Manufacturing	9	\$	549,478.00	\$	416,000.14	21	93.5
Retail	22	\$	705,338.00	\$	311,021.58	9	71.5
Service	27	\$	1,317,818.04	\$	1,006,858.83	41	107
Trades	25	\$	1,065,941.00	\$	700,885.88	19	111
Grand Total	112	\$	5,347,918.04	\$	3,679,990.46	194	516

New Loans by County Last 12 Months

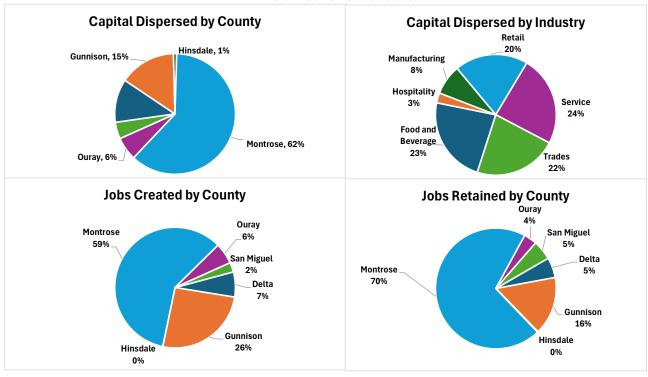
County	# Loans	Loan Amt	Cu	rrent Loan Balance	# Jobs Created	# Jobs Retained
Montrose	11	\$ 1,207,100.00	\$	1,177,439.28	40	47
Delta	4	\$ 99,265.00	\$	95,599.87	6	5
Ouray	2	\$ 80,515.00	\$	76,765.41	2	10
Grand Total	17	\$ 1,386,880.00	\$	1,349,804.56	48	62

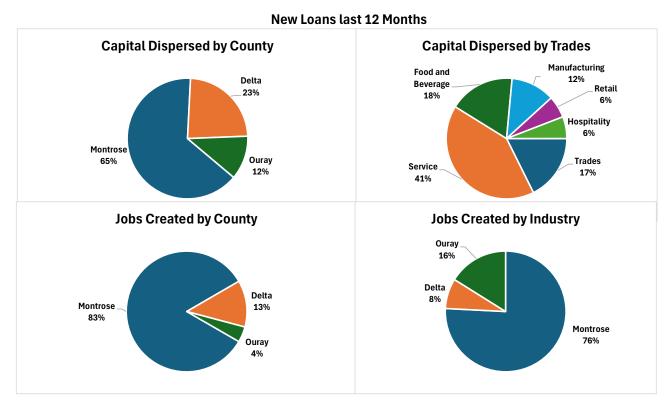
New Loans by Industry Last 12 Months

Industry	# Loans	Lo	an Amt	Cu	rrent Loan Balance	# Jobs Created	# Jobs Retained
Trades	3	\$	337,000.00	\$	330,901.26	6	24
Service	7	\$	460,100.00	\$	436,057.44	12	22
Food and Beverage	3	\$	58,980.00	\$	56,176.09	4	11
Manufacturing	2	\$	70,800.00	\$	69,192.98	2	4
Retail	1	\$	50,000.00	\$	47,476.79	2	1
Hospitality	1	\$	410,000.00	\$	410,000.00	22	0
Grand Total	17	\$	1,386,880.00	\$	1,349,804.56	48	62



Total Loans Active Loans







CLS Board Report September 2024

Action Item:

Noteworthy:

- We are actively seeking other grant opportunities and are applying for those that appear to be a good match with our existing direction and mission. We have enlisted Janey Sorenson, an experienced grant writer to look at several instate foundations and funds that may help with meals and in-home services. We have a possibilty of meeting our budget shortfall through these oppurtunities.
- Eva Veitch officially has retired, yet continues to serve Region 10 by consulting with Brian on a weekly and as needed bases.
- It was noted in August board report that **Senior Community Meals, MOMs Meals, Shephards Hand**Home delievred meals, and **All Points Transit** had began waitlist and had to reduce or adjust various parts of their serivces to be able to continue to operate and meet some of the needs of the elderlyand aging in R10.
- In addition to these changes this last month R10 had enacted a waitlist for Life Alert, as these services
 are already over budget. This will be assessed monthly to ensure we are staying within budget
 guidelines.
- Another service under stress is our Legal Aide services, as they have already spent 40+% of their budget for the fiscal year 2025. Part of this use of funds for legal serivces may be due to the fall legal clinic that was held recently.

SHIP -Unfortunately, 2 volunteers resigned in July and August. Fortunately, we had 2 new volunteers go through the training and one also got certificied for SMP, which helps us greatly meet our grant expectations. Betty Coyne has 20 years experience in health insurance and human resources benefit counseling. The other, Dr Doug Speedie, has worked in the healthcare system all of his career. Both are SMP certified, and will be able to take calls during open enrollment. With Joe also completing SHIP training soon, we anticipate being able to help many of the local enrolles, and any we can not handle will be assisted by our partners at the state level. We continue to work to recruit volunteers for this vital and challenging program.

Ombusdman- Sandy continues to offer consistent and dedicated services and management of our ombudsman services to our Senior care facilities throughout the region, including 7 skilled nursing and 14 assisted living facilities. As previously stated we have four volunteer Ombudsman that help ensure that the residents in Region 10 are well represented, this is exceptional in comparison to other regions.

RSVP Update: RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) has submitted multiple grant applications for the RSVP competition for San Miguel and Ouray counties. Awards will be communicated in January and issued in March. We are working on budgets and other funding sources to meet 10% match, or to consider a waiver for a 0% match. Beacon Fest was a great success! We had 19 people sign up to learn more and so far, 3 have completed applications. We expect at least 3 more next week.

Our AmeriCorps portfolio and senior portfolio managers made a site and station visit. They were happy to see one of our stations in action and got to meet a few of our volunteers. Overall, they commented they were happy with the RSVP program and thanked us for our hard work and willingness to learn and grow.

Senior Companion Program (SCP)- As mentioned previously, our AmeriCorps portfolio managers from outof-state and the Denver area visited R1o to review what has been accomplished since July 1st and to give tips on launching and administering an effective SCP. The AmeriCorps staff noted the progress on a solid foundation of putting our policy and procedures together, working on intake and matching processes, and were impressed that we were ahead of many other programs at the same stage. The existing Senior Companion Program, under RSVP, remains steady at 28 matches. Currently, the SCP under AmeriCorps Seniors is being analyzed to develop and implement appropriate processes.

Informational/Ongoing:

We are looking at expanding Handy Helpers to Montrose. It appears we have this ability with donated storage space by Stryker construction, coordination by Sheila Makie in Delta, recent additions of RSVP partners, and help from volunteers that have expressed willingness to help in Montrose. More to come.



September 2024 Corey Bryndal Regional Broadband Project Director Broadband Report to the Board

- **DOLA EIAF Broadband** middle mile expansion plan is moving forward. This allows for direct fiber connection east into metro Denver, west to Salt Lake City and expansion southwest into Region 9. An updated MOU with Garfield County was signed. Fiber lateral construction in 9 communities is complete. An inventory is complete. The town of DeBeque is funded and starting construction. All equipment is on hand with our staging vendor LightRiver and at the R10 offices. LightRiver has final project detail required for configuration. The first sites deployed will be Denver, Grand Junction and Glenwood Springs. This allows for served to be extended to I-70 communities and Region 10's own network in Grand Junction. After those sites, Durango/Cortez, Montrose and the other communities will be added. The order of events is (1) Cabling and (2) Optical Equipment (3) Routing Equipment. The next step is fiber splicing and testing with both Zayo and CDOT.
- Region 10 has seen solid interest in our planned Salt Lake City route. This path provides redundancy should there be a problem with Denver connections. i.e. mud-slide, fire, power or equipment failure. One ISP is interested in multiple sites along the route including transport and colocation services. An existing municipal network has asked for westbound services. Another ISP is currently collocated in two sites and will use transport service once activated. Several ISP's have been pushing for service activations.
- Region 10 participated in the development of a grant request made by UCAR to NSF. The grant was awarded to UCAR in April. Region 10 will provide transport services and IP routing to support community anchor institutions with science drivers in Gunnison, Crested Butte, Grand Junction and Durango. This is a large scale opportunity to support the Western Slope in concert with the Front Range Gigapop / UCAR organization. Region 10 will receive service revenue for the services rendered Coordination meetings to use the Region 10 network will have begun. Fiber extensions for CMU, Fort Lewis College, Western Colorado University and Rocky Mountain Bio Lab are being coordinated.
- Region 10 continues to work with DOLA on existing grants, changes in scope, and supplemental requests as needed. We are looking to the Colorado Broadband Office(part of OiT) for direction on their Middle Mile Grant program, and how we access funding for several Region 10 needs including legacy equipment refresh, and operational support opportunities.
- Region 10 will occupy the Lake City CNL and install equipment for transport back to Gunnison. Fiber to reach the Lake City GCEA substation is complete. One anchor site was substituted with the



agreement of the community and that site is now complete. We were glad to see DOLA visit Lake City and enjoy fiber optic services speeds!

- Region 10 continues our dialogue with Just Transitions Fund regarding the \$150k grant awarded earlier this year. Region 10 has contracted with Echo Consulting out of Pagosa Springs for support in day to day operations and management of existing assets. This has been an active engagement and is producing results.
- Gunnison County, Crested Butte and Mount Crested Butte have asked Region 10 to focus on long-term, permanent fix, with possible interim solution between Gunnison and Crested Butte. Our focus is on middle-mile fiber between towns and developing a CNL in Mt. Crested Butte. Mt. Crested Butte has awarded a contract offer to a construction firm for this work. CNL construction will take place over the 2024/2025 winter season, and fiber construction will follow in the spring of 2025. While the CNL will be built with local and DOLA funds, fiber construction will be accomplished using local funds.
- Region 10 has used a private contractor to perform an audit of existing network assets. The output will includes a topology map, remediation plan for equipment and configuration needs. Staff has received a proposal, has determined priority tasks and services. Region 10 is currently seeking a funding source for equipment refresh and update of some of it's legacy gear. We are exploring several options.
- Region 10 is developing an RFP for network management services to ensure costs are competitive with market offerings. This RFP may include additional business and support services. Region 9 and 12 have signaled interest in collaborating on the RFP.
- Region 10 managed CNL's over 5 years old are in need of Uninterruptible Power Supply refresh and capacity increases. Several UPS failures have occurred, and existing units have undersized batteries that are reaching end of service life. Gunnison and Montrose sites have received temporary UPS fixes but a more comprehensive lifecycle plan for power backup is needed. This project will be lead by contrator Echo Consulting.
- Continuing to work with our neighbors to the south in **Region 9** and is working on projects in the region to develop redundant fiber routes with more capacity and connect to primary Internet sources for the Western Slope in general. Four CNL's in Region 9 have been completed and will connect to the Region 10 network. Region 10 provided design and estimating for optical and routing gear for these facilities and the SUIT location. DOLA awarded Region 9 a \$999,999 grant for this project. Region 10 was able to negotiate an additional service credit with the optical vendor of \$100,000 to help with installation costs. Since Region 9 will be seeking EDA funds and will perform procurement in CY2025, they will need to re-request the vendor service credit for that calendar year.



- La Plata County and Colorado Counties Inc is supporting a bill in the Colorado legislature to remove recurring fees from CDOT owned public right of way. This bill failed at the direction of the Governor. CDOT recurring ROW fees are in force. Communities are utilizing alternate routes that do not have recurring annual ROW fees. CDOT fees appear to be having an affect on BEAD applications and reaching un/under-served
- Region 10 has supported Region 9 in designing and estimating equipment needs for the new Durango to Pagosa Springs route along Highway 151. Region 10 has signed agreements to receive an IRU of fiber from Durango to Pagosa Springs. This collaboration of two counties, an electric company and the Southern Ute Indian Tribe was lead by Region 10. SUIT is finalizing permitting and construction may be begin late in 2024.
- Governments in Alamosa & Walsenburg have reached out to learn more about the Region 10 model. We have helped them get a consulting firm involved, and will continue to support their efforts as needed. Government stakeholders saw a clear need for improved middle mile infrastructure. Some private ISP's agreed, and others sensed potential competition for end user services. Region 10 only provides middle-mile services. Governments around Alamosa have prepared and submitted a DOLA funding request with their consultant Neo Connect.
- Region 10 identified a significant fiber gap between Durango and Pagosa Springs. This route will provide an opportunity for improved reliability for the entire western slope of Colorado especially Region 10's six counties. Five partners came together to develop \$2 million in matching funds for the project. DOLA awarded La Plata County \$2.1 million in middle-mile funds for purchase of a one-time assignable IRU. The \$4.1 million project includes La Plata County, Archuleta County, La Plata Electric Association, Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Region 10. As a result, Region 10 will receive use of four strands of fiber that will contribute to improved reliability of our overall infrastructure. While Region 10 staff crated the project, partners in the Durango have put together the final structure and agreements. Region 10 has signed the agreement, will receive 4 strands of fiber from Durango to Pagosa Springs to support private ISP's at area CNL's.
- DOLA responsibilities -in the "Technical Assistant" role, Region 10 staff continues to present broadband educational materials, review potential project applications, attend regional meetings and provide technical assistance for broadband development throughout our DOLA identified territory. Engagement areas include SCEDD, PPACG, San Luis Valley, Region 9/SWCCOG, AGNC and others. Periodic updates are provided to AGNC. Region 10 attends two regular weekly meetings with Region 9.
- DOLA has indicated they will not be funding the two Technical Assistance positions once more. Colorado Broadband Office has asked the legislature for funding for two internal CBO middle-mile resources. The legislature agreed. However, the goals of CBO's middle-mile program as stated relate to mapping and developing grant programs, where current in-Region DOLA funded Technical Assistance



positions are focused on deploying middle-mile projects and managing implementation and operations. While DOLA will fund an additional request for broadband Technical Assistance, CBO indicates they are not in a position to commit to supporting these request going forward. We will wait to see what their middle-mile grant program eligibility looks like in the future.



TRANSPORTATION NEWSLETTER

DATE: September 2024

Vince Rogalski, Chairman

Gunnison Valley TPR

vrogal@montrose.net

STAC Bylaw changes

Last month I provided an overview of the Bylaw changes for STAC. Below is Results of the most resent STAC meeting on Sept 5:

Revised STAC Bylaws (Action Item) - Review of the updated draft STAC Bylaws

- Darius Pakbaz, Director, Division of Transportation Development
- Language was refined since the August STAC meeting in Article III. In Section 5, the chair of the Transit Rail Advisory Committee is a nonvoting member of STAC and is entitled to name an alternative if unable to attend.
- In Article IV, the chairperson and vice chair will be a member of STAC and will hold office for no more than two two-year terms. Elections will be held in October. In Section 11, the STAC leadership will represent both rural and urban areas and they should alternate, ensuring equal representation when possible.
- Current language requires Officers hold no more than two consecutive terms, for four years in total.
- Gary Beedy requested that the finalized version be sent to STAC members.

STAC Action:

A Motion was unanimously approved to adopt, specifying an additional term limitation of no more than four consecutive terms combined for Chair and Vice Chair, if any one person serves for two terms in each position.

PD 14

One of the most important documents for Long Range Planning is PD 14. Below is the deliberation of STAC.

Date/Time: Thursday, September 5, 2024; 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 2050 Statewide Plan Update - Policy Directive 14 (Action Item) - Darius Pakbaz, Director, Division of Transportation Development

- Policy Directive 14 helps investment decisions in the planning process, asset management, and FASTER safety and HSIP.
- The policy is designed to be a living document. Required annual progress reports will provide opportunities for adjustments throughout implementation.
- There were adjustments to the "sustainably increase transportation choice" goal. TC principles, the Wildly Important Goals, and the Performance Measure Matrix were incorporated into the appendix.
- Safety goals are measured statewide on-system only, as required in federal reporting statute. Achieving safer roads statewide is a partnership between CDOT and local partners, as shown in the development process for the Statewide Highway Transportation Plan.
- Concerns arose regarding the 83% increase of transit revenue service miles and its excessive cost. CDOT emphasized that goals can be modified over time if they are not feasible due to funding.
- Additional concerns arose concerning there is no goal on highway expansion to accommodate expected population growth, and some STAC members would not support the Policy because of this issue. Many feel it is unreasonable to expect a solution through expanded transit only, that many parts of the state cannot be served adequately by transit nor can the state fund such aspirational transit goals.
- Many expressed the need to address the pavement and asset condition rather than transit.
- Concerns were raise on whether the PD will prevent some projects from happening if they do not hit the goals in particular communities. CDOT clarified that in no circumstance would transit be necessarily added onto highway maintenance as individual project do not need to hit all three major goal areas at once.
- A general concern is that the 10 Year Plans will not be based on needs but rather this policy and it will determine that the funding goes to transit rather than pavement and safety projects.
- Regarding the pavement condition goal of 1%, concern was expressed that the interstate highway system may eat up the entire budget. CDOT emphasized that the

needs must be balanced and such conversations and decisions are happening on the regional level.

- Heather Alvarez asks that these comments are emphasized in reporting on PD 14. Commissioner O'Dorisio voiced concerns that if the STAC rejects the proposed PD 14 it may reduce their influence with the TC.
- Commissioner Eula Adams suggested that the public comments are another venue for STAC to express its concerns. There is no plan for PD 14 to be workshopped to an extensive degree. The plan was for this to be the final look prior to approval.
- Vince Rogalski says that TC and STAC do not discuss PD 14 together but separately and it would be useful to discuss this together.
- Gary Beedy comments that STAC has been commenting on these issues and the commentary has not been incorporated into PD 14.

Darius responded that compiled comments were addressed in a table provided in the appendix attached to PD 14.

STAC Action: The STAC approved a motion to reject the proposed PD 14, with Commissioner O'Dorisio voting against for reasons stated above.

Next STAC meeting: October 3, 2024, 8:30 to 12:30. Meeting will be in-person at CDOT HQ and include STAC officer elections. The next meeting after that will be November 7th and will be virtual.

The Transportation Commission at their September 19 Meeting Approved PD 14.

Below is the Resolution which was approved.

Proposed Resolution # 7 Adoption of Updated Policy Directive 14.0 "Policy Guiding Statewide Transportation Plan Goals and Performance Measures" Approved by the Transportation Commission on September 19, 2024.

Whereas, under the Colorado Revised Statutes § 43-1-106(8), the Transportation Commission of Colorado has the statutory responsibility to set policies for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT); and

Whereas, the "Policy Guiding Statewide Transportation Plan Goals and Performance Measures" provides performance measures to monitor the success of the Department's efforts to improve in the key goal areas of Advancing Transportation Safety, Fix Our Roads, and Sustainably Increase Transportation Choice; and

Whereas, the Transportation Commission adopted the current version of Policy Directive 14.0 on November 19, 2020; and

Whereas, the revisions to Policy Directive 14.0 streamline the number of performance measures to ensure the Department is strategically focusing investments towards key goal areas to make substantial progress towards CDOT's overarching vision for transportation; and

Whereas, the revisions to Policy Directive 14.0 also support the national goals for surface transportation in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) of 2021, as well as Colorado's Greenhouse Gas Pollution Reduction Roadmap, SB 23-016, and HB 19-1261; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved, the Commission herein adopts updated Policy Directive 14.0 "Policy Guiding Statewide Transportation Plan Goals and Performance Measures"

Herman Stockinger, Secretary Transportation Commission of Colorado

Transportation TPR Meeting
MMOF TPR meeting
October 17, 2024

1:30 to 3:00pm